

# Department of Communication Studies

Main Departmental Office  
Terrill Hall, 235

P.O. Box 305268  
Denton, TX 76203-5268  
(940) 565-2588

Web site: [www.comm.unt.edu](http://www.comm.unt.edu)

## John S. Gossett, Chair

*Graduate Faculty:* Allison, Anderson, Byers, Gossett, Richardson, Shukla, J. Taylor, K. Taylor.

The Department of Communication Studies offers the following degrees:

- Master of Arts, and
- Master of Science, both with a major in communication studies.

Theory and research in communication studies examine communication in human affairs and the symbolic processes through which humans interact. The curriculum is designed to facilitate student mastery of theory and research, to develop student research capabilities and to enhance student preparation for a variety of careers or for further graduate study.

The department offers course work in rhetorical, performance and social science traditions. Students are afforded opportunities to explore communication from applied and theoretical perspectives using analytical, critical, quantitative and qualitative methodologies. Course work features the investigation of communication in interpersonal, organizational, aesthetic, health, cultural, intercultural, legal, political and international contexts. Students will encounter topics such as gender and diversity issues, social change, conflict and narrative. The graduate experience often is enhanced by opportunities to engage in consulting; conducting research with faculty members; and participating in regional and national festivals and professional conferences, and/or internships with corporations, social service organizations, arts organizations and government agencies.

Teaching assistantships are awarded competitively to prospective students with excellent academic backgrounds and potential as effective classroom teachers. Interested individuals should contact the department office for application materials.

Graduates of this program should be able to demonstrate competence in making a public oral presentation or performance to a graduate student

audience in communication studies; demonstrate advanced knowledge of the field of communication studies by designing and conducting an original research project and presenting the findings and implications of that research in appropriate form; interpret, explain, present, and/or illustrate knowledge of theoretical concepts in communication studies; present an effective oral defense of arguments; explain the dynamic interrelationship among communicators, contexts and culture in the generation and processing of instances of communication; and demonstrate competence in written communication in terms of content as well as form.

The department also supports an interdisciplinary doctorate with a major in information science. See the School of Library and Information Sciences section of this catalog for more information.

## Research

Research interests of the faculty in the Department of Communication Studies include the areas of:

1. rhetorical analysis and criticism of persuasive public communication in historical, political and cultural contexts;
2. the role of communication in organizations, professions and groups, including planned social change, superior-subordinate-coworker communication, training and consulting, conflict management, interpersonal and professional relationships, and small group communication and decision-making;
3. performance of texts, literary and performance theory and criticism, history of performance studies, intertextuality, phenomenology, and literary and rhetorical applications of narrative theory;
4. interpersonal communication, including receptivity and listening, informational reception apprehension, communication apprehension, intimate communication, gender and communication, communication style and assertiveness, health communication, mediation, interpersonal conflict, human information processing and interpersonal influence;
5. legal communication, including investigation of theories and case law related to the First Amendment guarantee of freedom of speech, as well as applied research related to expert testimony; and
6. critical and cultural studies of communication, cultural values, ideologies and politics.

## Admission Requirements

Prospective students must apply for admission to the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies. Because of the interdisciplinary nature of much of the work done in the Department of Communication Studies, admission is open to many who did not major in

communication as undergraduates. Applicants with fewer than 24 hours of undergraduate communication course work may request admission on the basis of communication-related courses.

All applicants must take the aptitude test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and must have the scores reported to the department prior to being considered for admission. Undergraduate students anticipating graduate work in this department should take the GRE in the fall term/semester of the senior year. Successful applicants generally have GRE scores of at least 410 on the verbal section, 420 on the quantitative section, and an undergraduate grade point averages of at least 3.0 in the last 60 hours. Contact the department or the Toulouse School of Graduate Studies for information concerning acceptable admission test scores, including acceptable scores on the writing section of the GRE.

## Degree Programs

The department offers graduate programs leading to the following degrees:

- Master of Arts, and
- Master of Science, both with a major in communication studies.

The master's degree requires the completion of at least 36 hours of graduate course work.

There are three options for the degree:

1. 36 hours of course work in communication studies, including 6 hours of thesis and oral examination;
2. 36 hours of course work in communication studies, including 3 hours of Research Problems in Lieu of Thesis (COMM 5920), plus comprehensive examination; or
3. 36 hours of course work in communication studies, including 3 hours of Graduate Internship in communication studies (COMM 5481), plus a comprehensive examination.

The Graduate School has a foreign language requirement for the Master of Arts degree.

## Courses of Instruction

All Courses of Instruction are located in one section at the back of this catalog.

### Course and Subject Guide

The "Course and Subject Guide," found in the Courses of Instruction section of this book, serves as a table of contents and provides quick access to subject areas and prefixes.

# Department of Dance and Theatre

Main Departmental Office  
Radio, TV, Film and Performing Arts Building, 242  
P.O. Box 310607  
Denton, TX 76203-0607  
(940) 565-2211

Dance Office  
Stovall Hall, 180  
(940) 565-3432

Web site: [www.danceandtheatre.unt.edu](http://www.danceandtheatre.unt.edu)

### Timothy Wilson, Chair

*Graduate Faculty:* Cox, Cushman, Garcia, Grose, Hayes, Lakes, Smith, Wilson.

The Department of Dance and Theatre is dedicated to the profession of theatre arts and dance as central concerns of a civilized society and as primary methodologies in the education of its citizenry. Small groups of teachers and students, using as a foundation the artists and the artworks from both past and present and from all cultures and civilizations, collaborate in rehearsals and public performances derived from the finest possible classroom experiences. Scholarly and empirical research is combined with a high level of spontaneous creativity to develop the entire spectrum of theatre arts. Emphasis is placed on the impact between performing artists and appreciative spectators. Playwrights, actors, dancers, choreographers, directors, designers and technicians are taught to discover and to enhance their own creativity, to bear witness through their artistry to the richness of human life and to make artistic performance the means of educating the people who are present when the performance occurs.

These student artists also must learn to design and manage each of the technical and administrative crafts that constitute the business of theatre arts and dance in the 21st century. A person who can create and manage a successful theatre or dance organization can do the same in any field for which a few of the basic skills have been acquired. There is no technology — that of computers, for example, lasers or the film and video industries — that does not manifest itself in the craft of theatre and dance.

The Department of Dance and Theatre operates several facilities designed and equipped to generate, organize and conduct research in dramatic performance. The Stovall Performance space, four dance